



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Trip Limit Decreased to 500 Pounds per Trip for Commercial Harvest of Vermilion Snapper in the South Atlantic

The daily trip limit for the commercial harvest of vermillion snapper in the South Atlantic is **reduced from 1,000 pounds gutted weight to 500 pounds gutted weight, effective 12:01 a.m. (local time) March 2, 2015**. NOAA Fisheries has determined 75 percent of the January-June quota will be landed by March 2, 2015.

Regulatory Amendment 18 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region reduced the vermillion snapper commercial trip limit from 1,500 pounds gutted weight to 1,000 pounds gutted weight. The final rule also implemented measures, which reduce the 1,000-pound gutted weight trip limit to 500 pounds gutted weight when 75 percent of the quota is met or projected to be met.

Reduction of the commercial vermillion snapper trip limit in the South Atlantic complies with regulations implemented under the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. The 500-pound gutted weight trip limit applies to vessels with a South Atlantic Unlimited Snapper-Grouper Permit fishing for vermillion snapper in or from the federal waters in the South Atlantic region. The 500-pound gutted weight trip limit will remain in effect until the quota is reached and vermillion snapper closes or until the end of the current January – June 2015 fishing season, whichever occurs first.